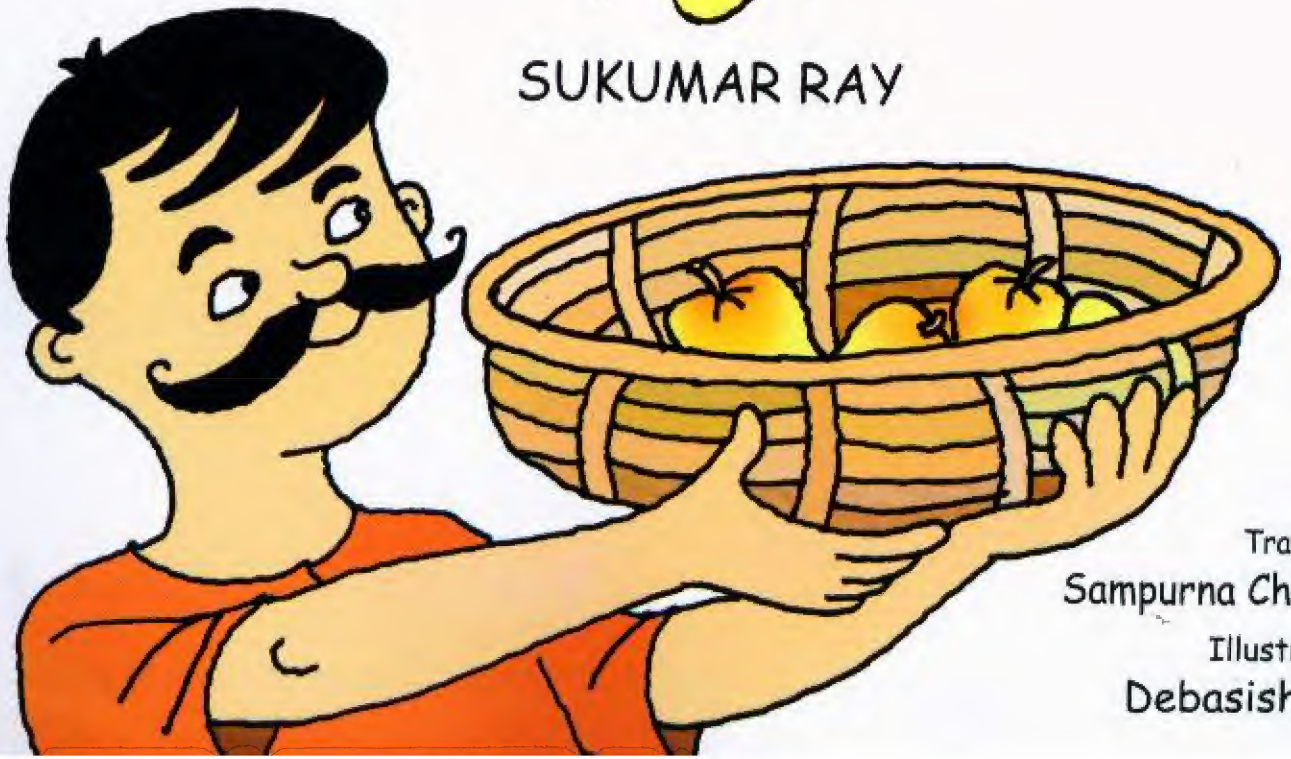
RIPE and READY

SUKUMAR RAY



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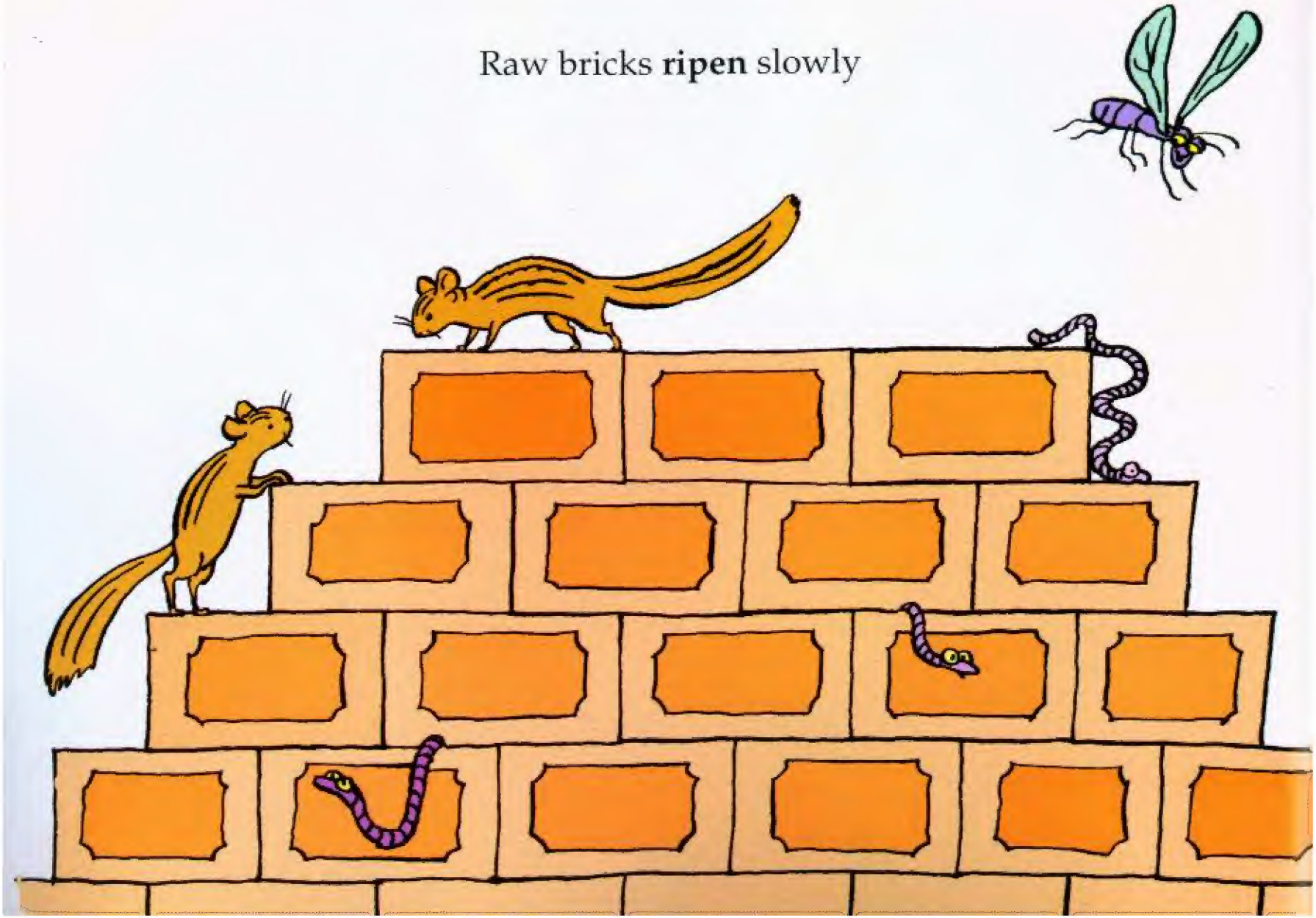
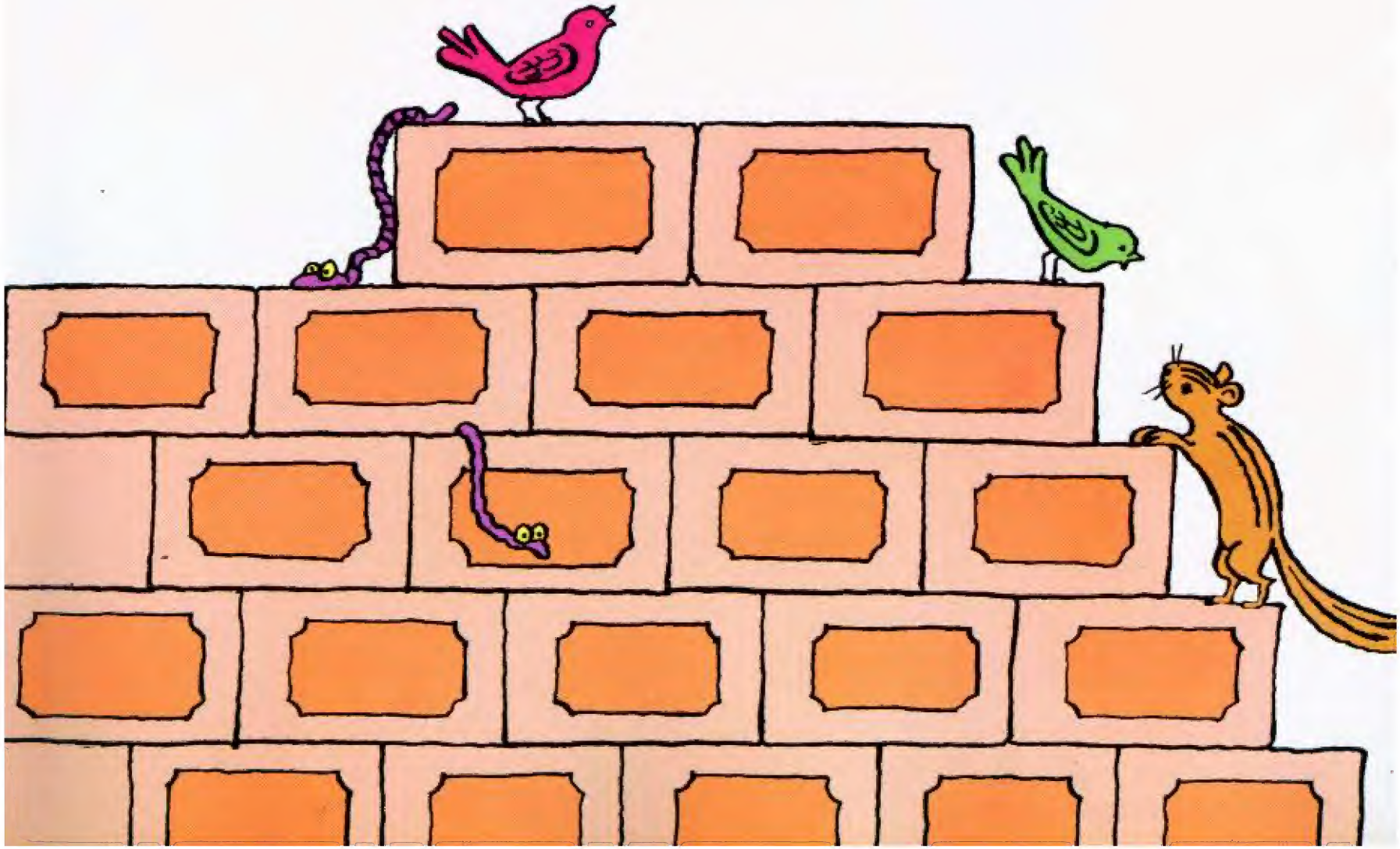
Berries **ripen** in March, they say

mangoes
ripen in may!

Raw bricks **ripen** slowly



in a burning kiln of clay.



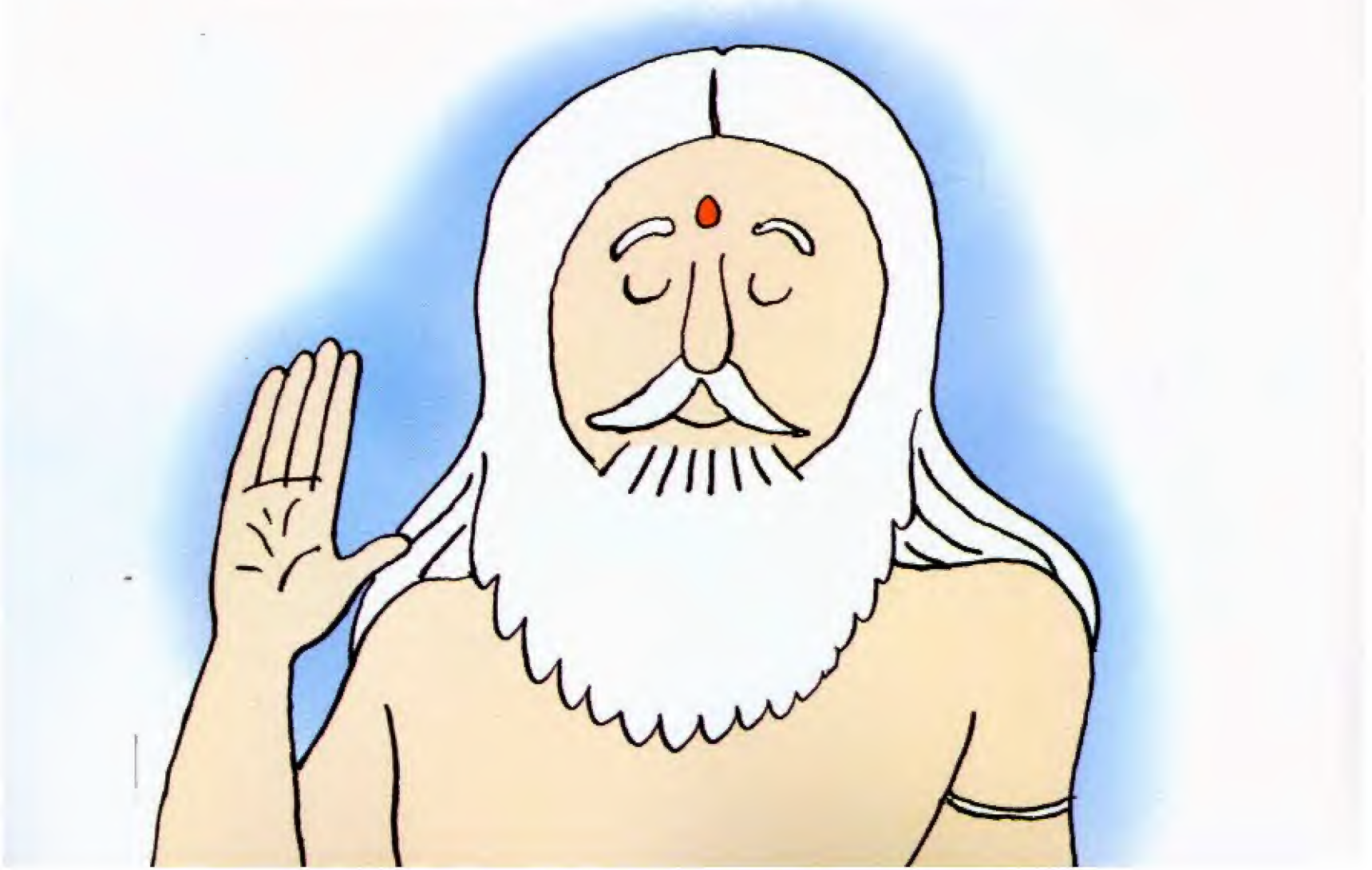
Colours that leak in water

or fade out in the Sun

are **unripened**, unsteady

which is why they run . . .

Grey hair spells a **ripe** old age of wisdom begotten.



The boy that **ripens** too fast
is most likely to be rotten.

Too many **overripe** cooks

always spoil the broth.

Eat your words

watch your brain start to fume and froth!

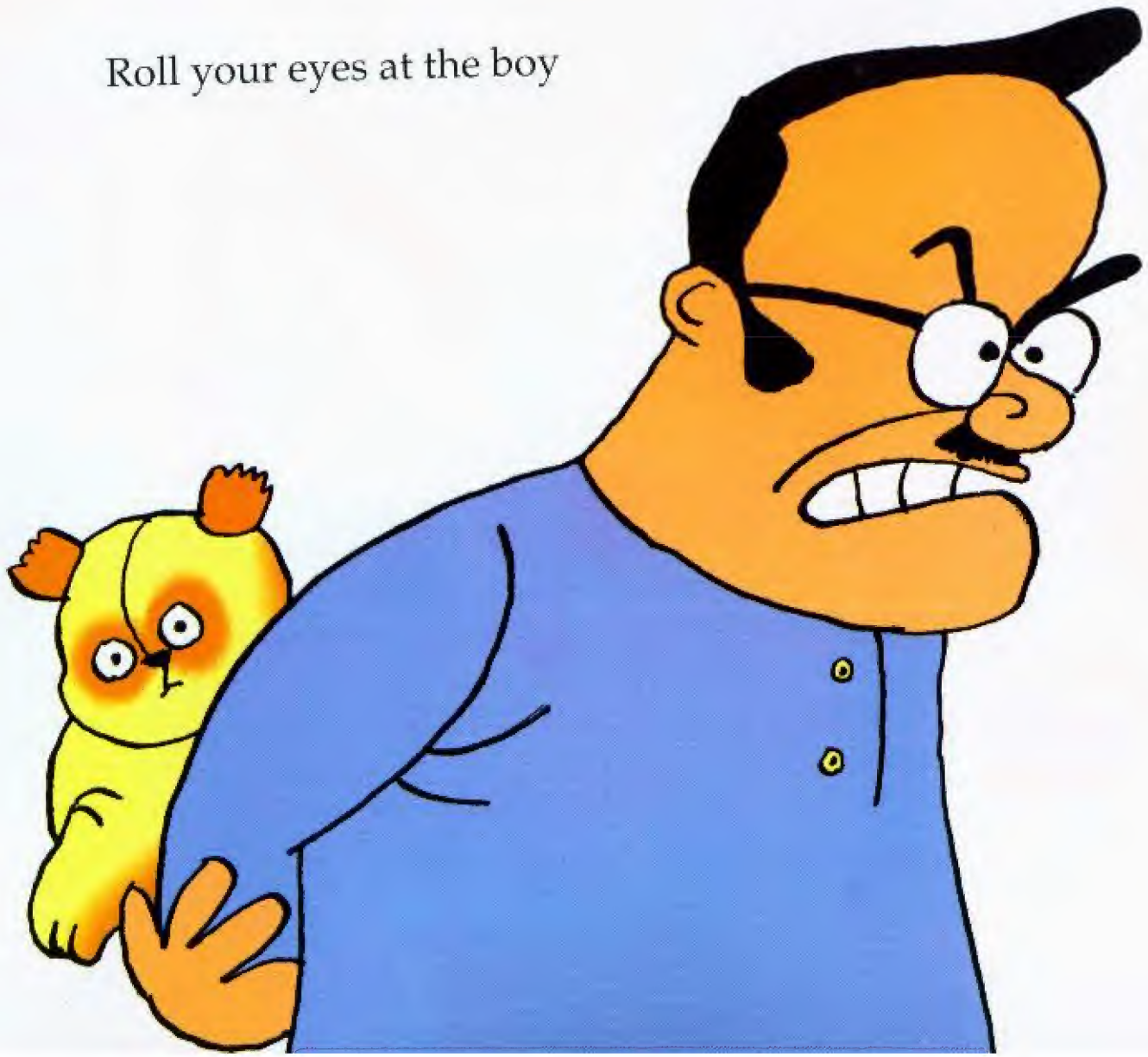
Ears **ripen,** boils **ripen**
and ooh how much
they ache . . .

He whose words are half-baked, is such a total fake.

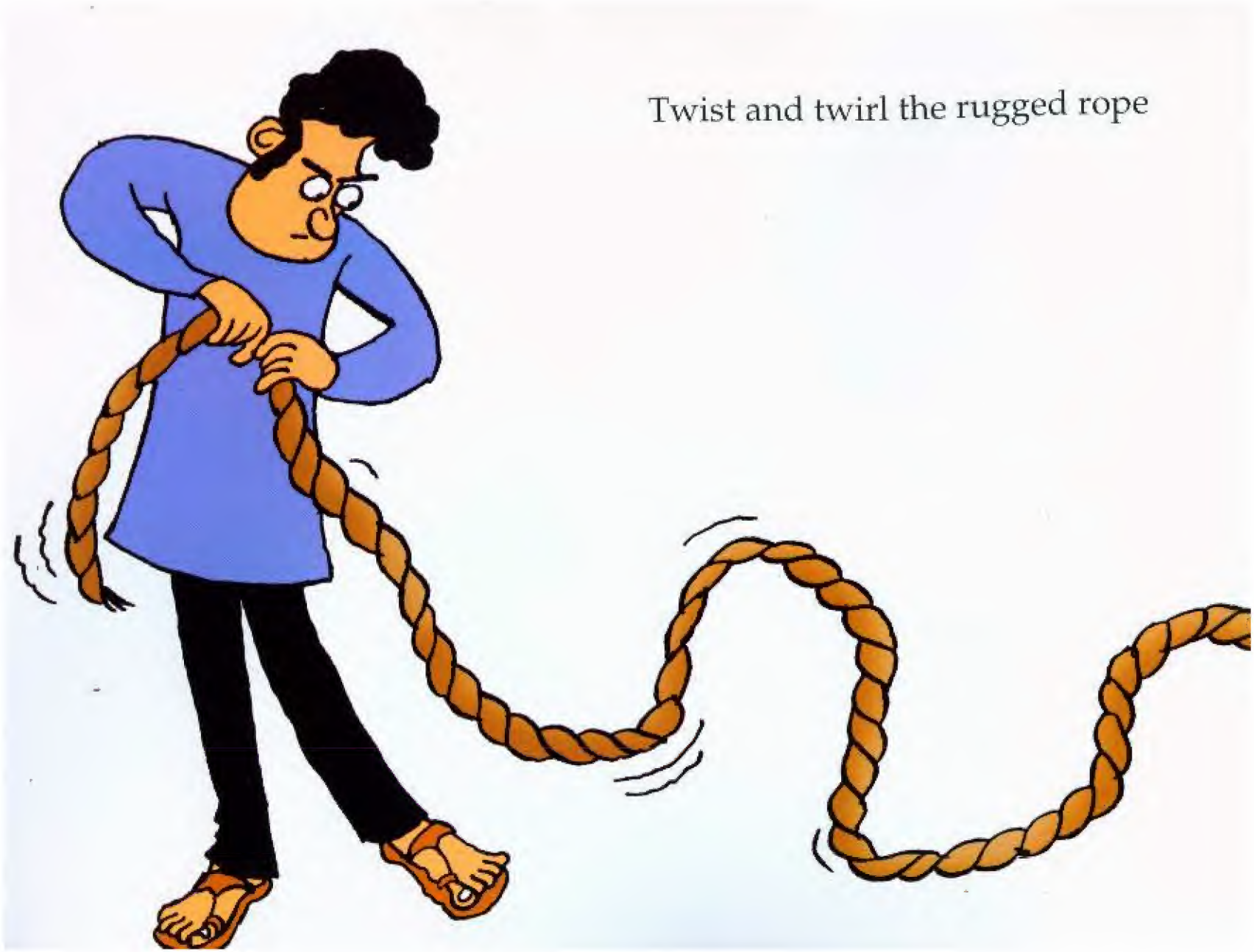
The cook stirs the stew-pot

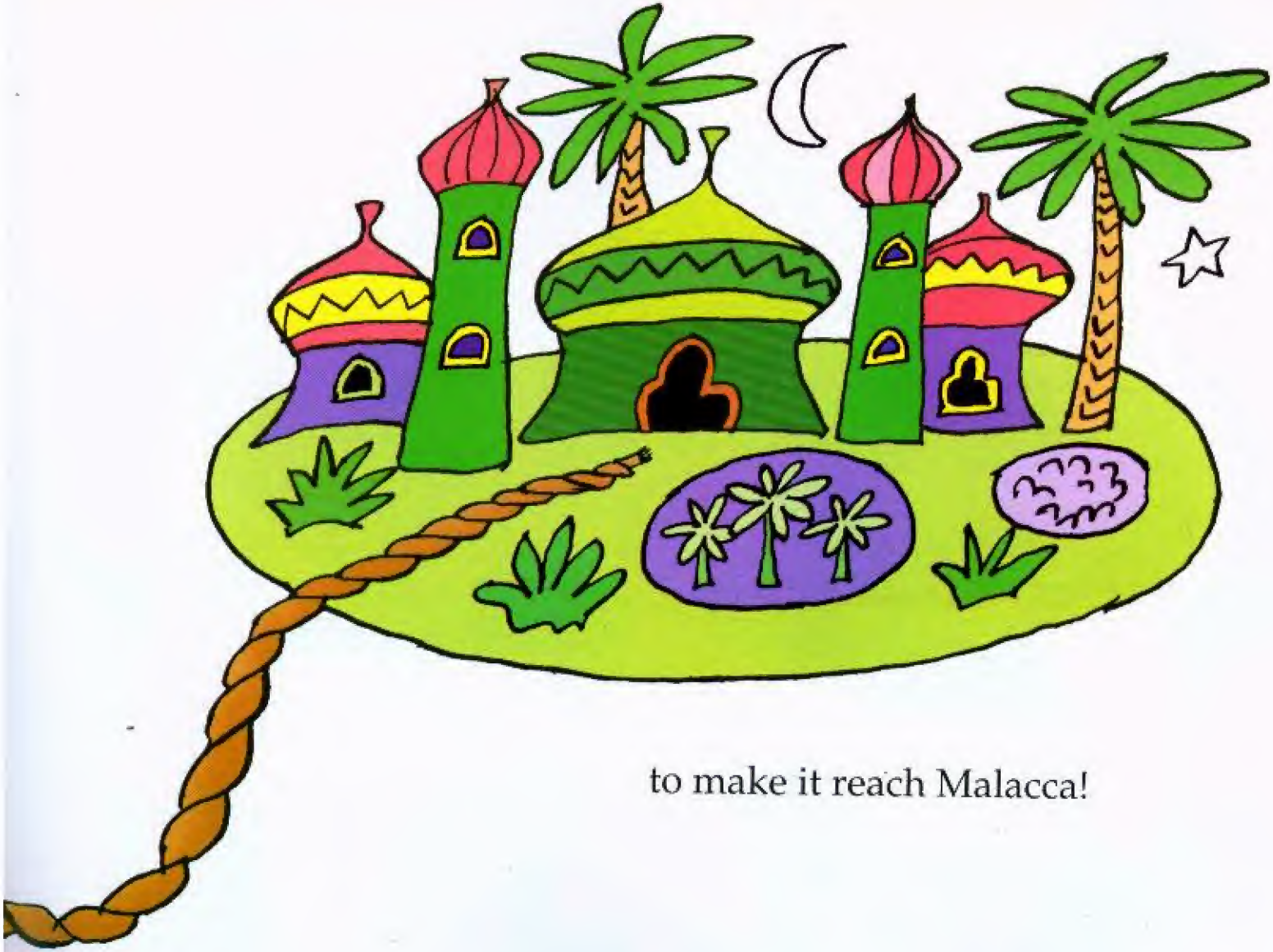
till it's **ripe** and **ready**!

Roll your eyes at the boy



till he cries for teddy.


Twist and twirl the rugged rope



to make it reach Malacca!

Twist and twirl your moustache to make yourself look **pucca**.

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